

## **Abstract**

This thesis seeks to describe the development and theoretical anchoring of the concept of the human rights-based approach (HRBA) in the context of development cooperation and to examine how it is taken into account by Czech NGOs. The theoretical part focuses in particular on the still controversial issues related to the universalism and cultural relativism of human rights, as well as their mostly individualistic nature. Then, the gradual penetration of human rights into international development discourse and the role and specifics of development NGOs are described in more detail. The thesis presents theoretical insights and concrete examples of the application of the human rights-based approach by NGOs. Critical perspectives and problematic implications associated with its application by NGOs are also discussed. In the Czech environment, the implementation of the HRBA is examined through a case study of two prominent NGOs.